

COMMISSION

FOR THE

PUBLICATION OF THE ANCIENT LAWS AND INSTITUTES OF IRELAND.

REPORT.

DATED JANUARY, 1896.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.



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1896

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REPORT
OF THE
BREHON LAW COMMISSIONERS.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY GEORGE HENRY, EARL CADOGAN, K.G.,
LORD LIEUTENANT-GENERAL AND GENERAL GOVERNOR OF IRELAND.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

The Commissioners for the Publication of the Ancient Laws and Institutes of Ireland beg to submit the following as their Report for the year 1895-6.

They have been informed by the Editor that he has been able to devote a large amount of time to the study of the Brehon Laws during the past year, and has made marked progress towards the completion of the Glossary which he is preparing. He is more anxious than anyone else can be that the work should be finished, and regrets that he has not yet been able to accomplish this. But he does not wish to mar the completeness of his handling of a most difficult subject by premature publication. The problems which arise on the text are very numerous, and often require a careful comparison of all the places in which a term occurs; and he was thus obliged to accumulate a great mass of detail with a view to securing correct interpretation. This process has involved a large amount of mere physical labour in copying passages and classifying slips, which he could not have entrusted to others with any hope of its being rightly carried out. All the time which can be spared from his professional occupations will continue to be given to the work.

It will not be necessary to include any sum in the Estimates for 1896-7 for the service of the Commission.

ASHBOURNE, G.

A. M. PORTER, M.R.

✦ JOHN HEALY.

WILLIAM O'BRIEN.

JOHN E. INGRAM.

P. W. JOYCE.

E. HOGAN.

C. LIMERICK, *Secretary.*